

NEW BRITAIN, CONN.  
HERALD

EVENING 30,482

APR 26 1961

## Where Opinions Differ

General Maxwell Taylor's study committee to review the degree of American participation in the Cuban affair cannot dodge the simple fact that a wide rift of opinion exists among the highest levels of President Kennedy's advisers as to just what went wrong.

One head of a major federal agency has said that the intelligence information provided the government was incorrect. Specifically, the areas of volume of Soviet arms in Cuba was not correctly identified and the mood of the Cuban people — their willingness to join in the revolt — was misjudged.

Another government leader, in a position to know, insists that the intelligence information was correct, but that the tactical implementation of that information was poorly handled.

When such divergent views exist at the highest levels, Americans can only conclude that somebody was wrong, and that such errors should be fully explored and corrected before they can happen again.

All of this, naturally, centers on the

C.I.A. America's semi-secret intelligence agency. Unfortunately, while he must bear the brunt of criticism, Allen Dulles, the C.I.A. head, cannot answer his critics. Despite the free and open nature of our society, there are still areas of intelligence which simply cannot be discussed.

But Dulles will have his say. He will be on General Taylor's committee, and he will be able to defend the agency's role in this whole sordid affair.

We cannot impress enough the fact that this cleavage of opinion is at the highest level of government, and that it could seriously jolt our whole foreign policy effort unless it is quickly corrected.

The beating we took in terms of foreign reaction, with the possible exception of Latin America, will take a long time to heal. Meanwhile, with such sharp disagreement within our own government, domestic negative reaction could easily mount.

General Taylor's committee has got its work cut out for it. The worst thing it could do at this point would be to whitewash what happened in Cuba.